

# CHARTERS TOWERS

BEXHILL · ON · SEA

SUSSEX







# CHARTERS TOWERS SCHOOL

LIMITED

BEXHILL-ON-SEA, SUSSEX

*Independent Public Boarding School for Girls, 10—18 years.*

*Junior Day School for Girls, 7—11 years.*

*Recognised by the Department of Education & Science*

*Headmistress: MISS D. L. HOWE, B.A. (T.C.D.)*

*Telephone: BEXHILL 211490 (STD Code 0424)*

Charters Towers is an Independent Public School for girls, recognized by the Department of Education and Science, the policy and control of which are in the hands of a governing body interested in education and known as the School Council. The School is an Educational Trust; it caters for the average and the clever girl by means of a wide curriculum with subject divisions and parallel forms. It aims at combining a friendly atmosphere, sound scholarship, small classes and a broad cultural background. Plenty of good food and fresh air, consideration for others, good manners and tidiness are considered important. The School is proud to recognize no barriers of race or religion, of colour or of creed, and while its emphasis is predominantly British and broadly Christian, a limited number of girls from abroad who speak English are welcomed, in an endeavour to promote international understanding and friendship.

One of the distinguishing features of the school is its home-like atmosphere combined with sensible discipline. The Headmistress and all members of the staff take a keen personal interest in every girl and the Headmistress is always willing to meet parents and discuss a girl's progress, or plans for her future. Regular staff meetings are held at which the work, conduct and activities of individual girls are freely discussed. For each group of girls there is a House Mistress to whom they can go for help and advice. Voluntary Service to the outside community is considered of importance and senior girls can share in this. A girl is accepted on the results of the school's Entrance examination, which is taken at her present school, or if she has been successful in Common Entrance or the 11+ Examination. Girls with Ordinary level of the General Certificate of Education results may be accepted directly into the 6th Form for the two year Advanced level Course.

The forms are small, numbering about twenty girls or less, and these forms are divided into sets, so that girls work at their own pace and there is ample opportunity for individual attention.

The School was originally founded in 1929 at East Grinstead. It was removed to Bexhill-on-Sea in 1934 because of the need for more extensive accommodation. The present larger and more attractive premises occupy an excellent position in Bexhill, one of the healthiest places in England.



## **BUILDINGS AND EQUIPMENT**

Although only a short distance from the sea, the school stands in the highest part of the town about 150 feet above sea level on the old Hastings Road, where there is little traffic to disturb girls at work or in dormitories at night. The buildings consist of five large, attractive houses which are interconnected. These have been extended to provide classrooms, up-to-date Domestic Economy room, Gymnasium, and Common Rooms for each House. The principal rooms and most of the dormitories have a south aspect. The extensive playing fields are behind the school. New Biology, Chemistry and Physics Laboratories have been added, as well as a modern Art and Craft Department, which includes Pottery. There are study-bedrooms for the 6th Forms and each House has its own surgery. Recently, a new Reference Library and Sanatorium Wing were added.

Two hundred and seventy girls are received from the age of 7 to 18. There is a Junior Day School for girls 7 to 11 years. Girls are accommodated in the five Houses according to age and form; in this way special attention can be given to the juniors and additional privileges and responsibilities to the seniors. A large school is not aimed at but one that gives sufficient competition and a flourishing 6th Form.

The school is equipped throughout with the most modern form of oil-fired central heating.

## **STAFF AND CURRICULUM**

The staff are selected both for their academic qualifications and their readiness to interest themselves in the school lives and activities of their pupils. All are University trained or otherwise well qualified, and specialists are responsible for Physical Education, Art and Craft, Domestic Science, Music, Dancing, Speech and Drama, etc.

Parallel forms in each year are divided alphabetically. The ordinary course of studies includes English Language and Literature, Religious Knowledge, History, Geography, Mathematics (the new Modern Mathematics is taught throughout, but Traditional Mathematics is also available at extra charge), Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Latin, French, German, Art, Cookery, Dressmaking, Musical Appreciation and Singing, History of Art and Architecture, Dance, Drama and Physical Education. The normal curriculum prepares all girls for the Cambridge General Certificate of Education at Ordinary level (with an option of Science, French and Mathematics at Certificate of Secondary Education standard).

In addition to public examinations, girls are also prepared for those of the Associated Board in Music and Elocution, The Guildhall School of Music and Drama, The Poetry Society and for examinations in Ballroom and Ballet dancing. Examination successes are well above average. The passing of examinations is, however, by no means the sole objective of the school: character training, the making of good citizens, and preparation for adulthood and a career are considered of paramount importance. We aim to educate, not just to teach.

## **THE SIXTH FORM**

After the fifth forms, girls may be accepted into the sixth forms of which a very special feature is made. Girls are accepted for one year for a General Course or for two



years for Advanced level of the General Certificate of Education. The General Course is adapted to individual requirements: some girls need to take more Ordinary levels, which can be combined with Alternative Ordinary levels as well as Liberal Studies, Cookery, Dressmaking, Art, Craft and extra subjects such as foreign languages, of which the School offers a particularly wide range, including French, German, Spanish, Italian, Russian, Portuguese. All these languages may be taken at Advanced level as well as English, Geography, History, Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Art, Economics and History of Art and Architecture. Other languages can be arranged.

Sixth formers are treated as students and have study bedrooms for one, two or three girls.

They wear uniform only for Physical Education, and their wider freedom is coupled with opportunities for leadership and service. Golf, Judo, Squash and Driving lessons are available in the Sixth as extra activities.

### **RELIGION**

Lessons are based on broad Christian and ethical principles. A short, simple service, attended by the whole school, is held at morning assembly. On Sundays the girls attend morning service at a choice of Anglican, Presbyterian, Methodist, Baptist, or Roman Catholic churches and on some Sundays the service is conducted at school. Girls who wish to become communicant members of the Church of England are prepared for Confirmation at the appropriate age. Each small group of non-Christians takes its own service at school on Sunday mornings.

### **CAREERS**

A resident Careers Mistress is available in a specially equipped Careers Room, to help all girls so that they can seek advice about training as early as they wish: final application forms to Colleges etc. are dealt with by the Headmistress.

Old Charterians have achieved success at Universities and Colleges, both in Britain and America, in Law, Medicine, Music, Art, Nursing, Domestic Science, Radiography, Occupational Therapy, Physiotherapy, Journalism, Horsemanship, Secretarial Work, Business, U.N.O. and Television.

### **SCHOOL ACTIVITIES**

The modern boarding school is wholly responsible for the lives and general welfare of its pupils for nearly three-quarters of every year. Concerts, musical recitals, lectures and plays are arranged. The school possesses its own cinema equipment. The 6th Form joins the very popular Bexhill Lecture Society which provides regular speakers at the De La Warr Pavilion. There are two school choirs and clubs for debating, drama, play-reading, chess, bridge, keep-fit, etc. Weekend outings are arranged to places of cultural and historic interest. Girls may bring their own radios to use at appropriate times. Television is provided in each House. The Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme, which includes sailing, archery, flower arrangement, hiking, social service, etc., is available to all girls. The school has a very flourishing Guide Company.

### **GAMES AND SPORTS**

The school possesses several acres of excellent playing fields providing hockey



pitches and grass and hard courts for tennis and netball, rounders pitches and an 18 hole putting green, together with general recreational facilities and a 400 metres athletics track.

Riding is a particularly popular feature at Charters Towers. The girls are taken in groups by mini-bus to the Beauport Park Riding Stables, which is a riding establishment approved by the British Horse Society, where a special feature is an indoor school available for use in wet weather. Pupils are taught Riding and Stable Management by qualified staff. Additional Advanced Riding is available.

Swimming is given particular attention. Winter Swimming is taken by all girls to the 3rd Year, but is optional for senior girls. In the Summer Term it takes place on every day on which the weather is suitable. Girls are taken by private buses each week to the White Rock Baths at Hastings for instruction in swimming, diving and life-saving. Every girl is expected to take the examinations of the Royal Life-Saving Society. The school has a Building Fund to provide its own heated swimming pool as part of the future extensions.

Special attention is given to Athletics; a member of staff coaches for both track and field events. A Sports Day is held each year in the Summer Term. Golf, under the tuition of the Highwoods Golf Club professional, is available to all age groups. 5th and 6th Formers may take Judo and Squash.

### **IMPORTANT CONSIDERATIONS**

Fire precautions are totally adequate and up-to-date and have been passed by the authorities and regular practices are held.

Special attention is given to no-sag spring bedsteads. Dunlopillo and spring interior mattresses and pure wool blankets are used throughout the school.

Consideration of health and diet are of paramount importance to parents and these receive special attention at Charters Towers.

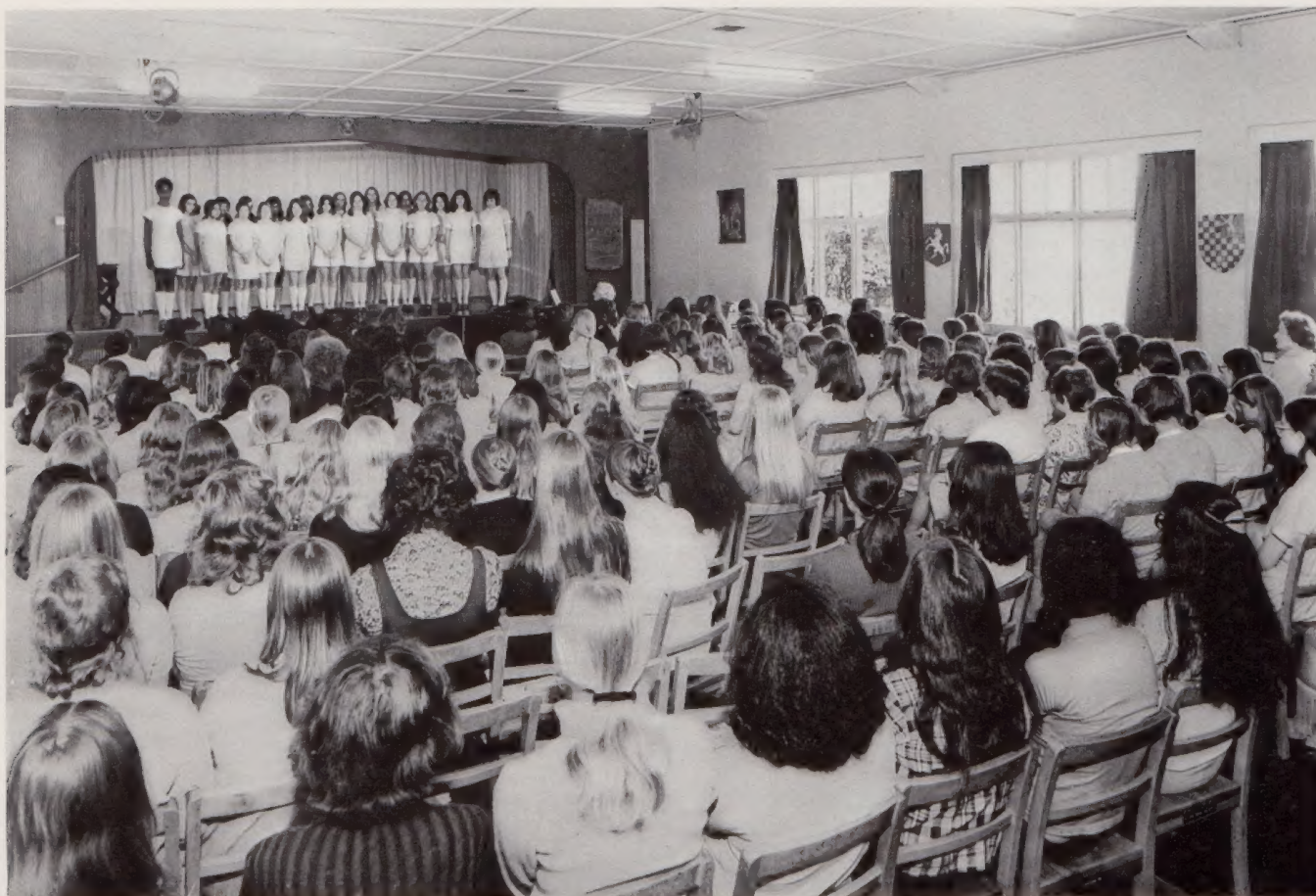
Each House has a surgery and the girls are carefully looked after by the Housemistresses under the direct supervision of the Headmistress. The medical officer is Dr. J. M. Richards who holds a surgery at school twice a week. There is a separate Sanatorium Wing with convalescent room and surgery in charge of a resident Qualified Nurse.

In arranging the diet the aim is to give the girls properly balanced menus in accordance with modern dietetic principles, and at the same time to provide good food which they can thoroughly enjoy. Fairfield Catering are in charge of catering and there is a choice of dishes at each meal.

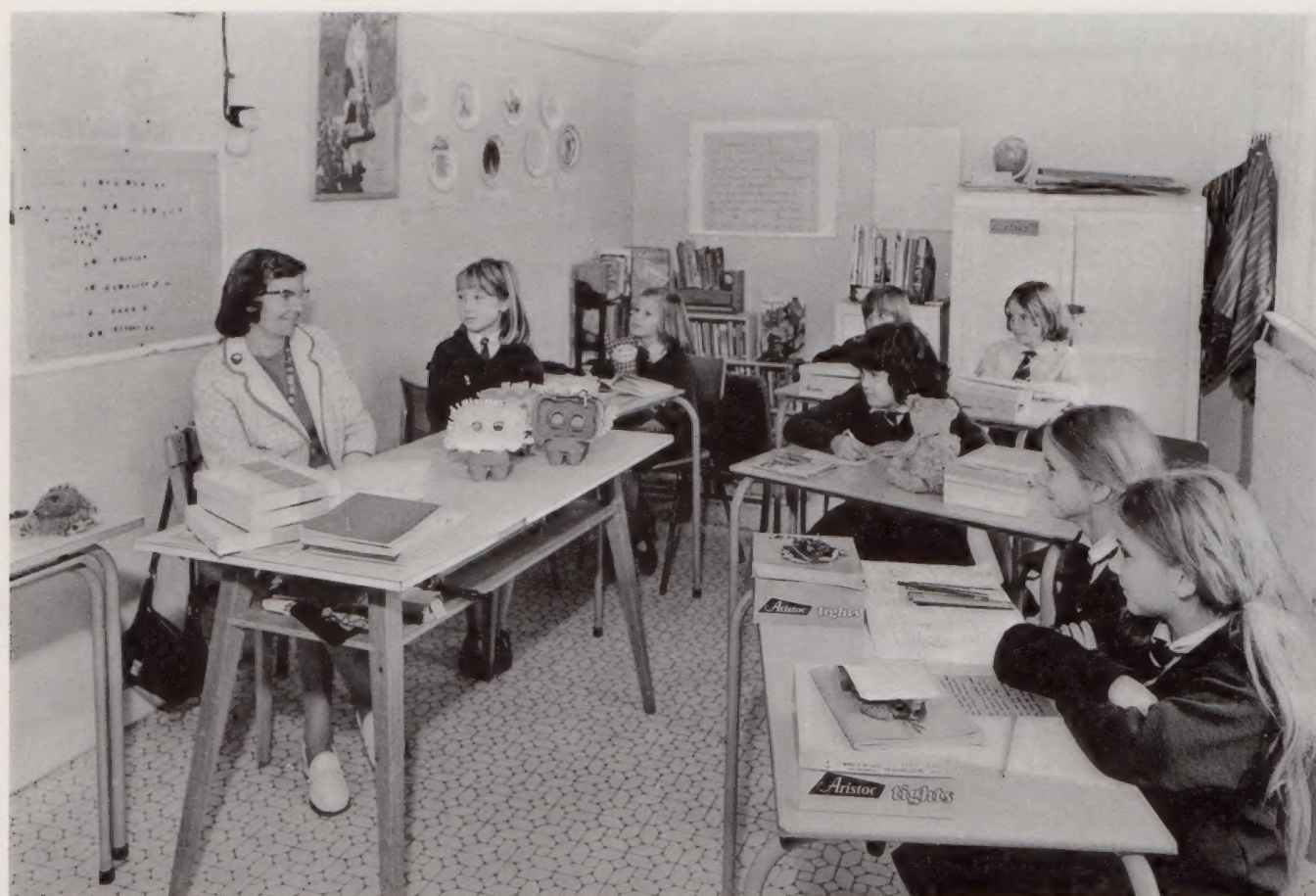
Parents are asked to have dental treatment done during the holidays, but emergency or remedial cases can be treated during the term by the school dental surgeons.

Where the school doctor orders remedial treatment, this is given by a qualified member of the staff and charged retrospectively.





ASSEMBLY HALL



TRANSITION





A FORM ROOM



CHEMISTRY LABORATORY





THE GYMNASIUM



BIOLOGY LABORATORY





SENIOR REFERENCE LIBRARY



DOMESTIC SCIENCE ROOM





ART and CRAFT DEPARTMENT



CERAMICS CLASS





THE 6TH FORM BLOCKS

*Left : A study-bedroom leading to the balcony overlooking the Playing Fields.*

THE 6TH FORM BLOCKS

*Right : A study-bedroom for two girls.*



A DORMITORY





HOUSE III COMMON ROOM



A MUSIC LESSON





RIDING (*Inset* The Indoor Riding School for bad-weather Tuition)

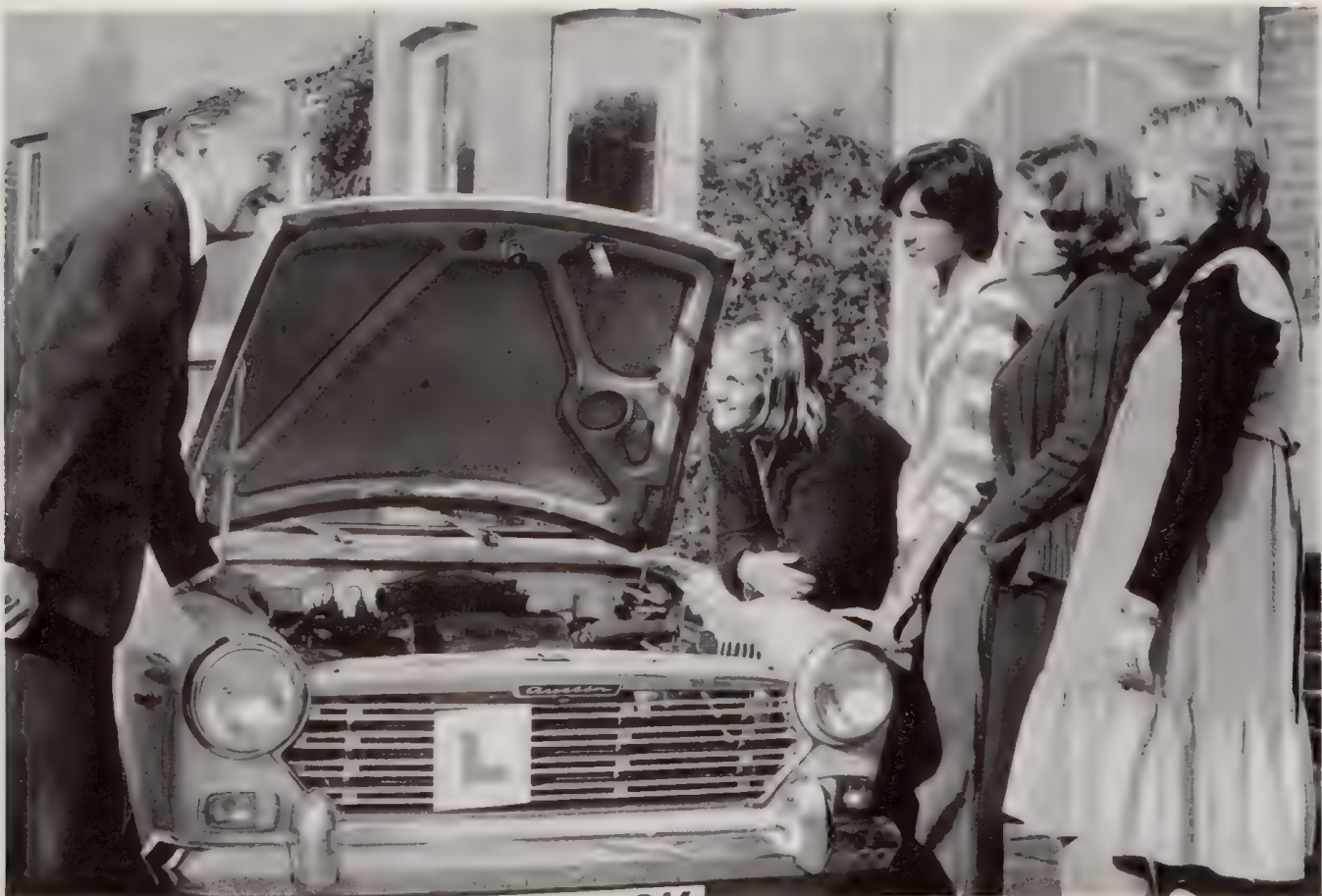


HOCKEY (*Inset* Tennis Coaching)





GOLF, under tuition of Highwoods G.C. Professional Mr. Bobby McLean



DRIVING LESSONS AND CAR MAINTENANCE





THE CHESS CLUB



DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD SCHEME—FLOWER ARRANGEMENT





THE DINING ROOM

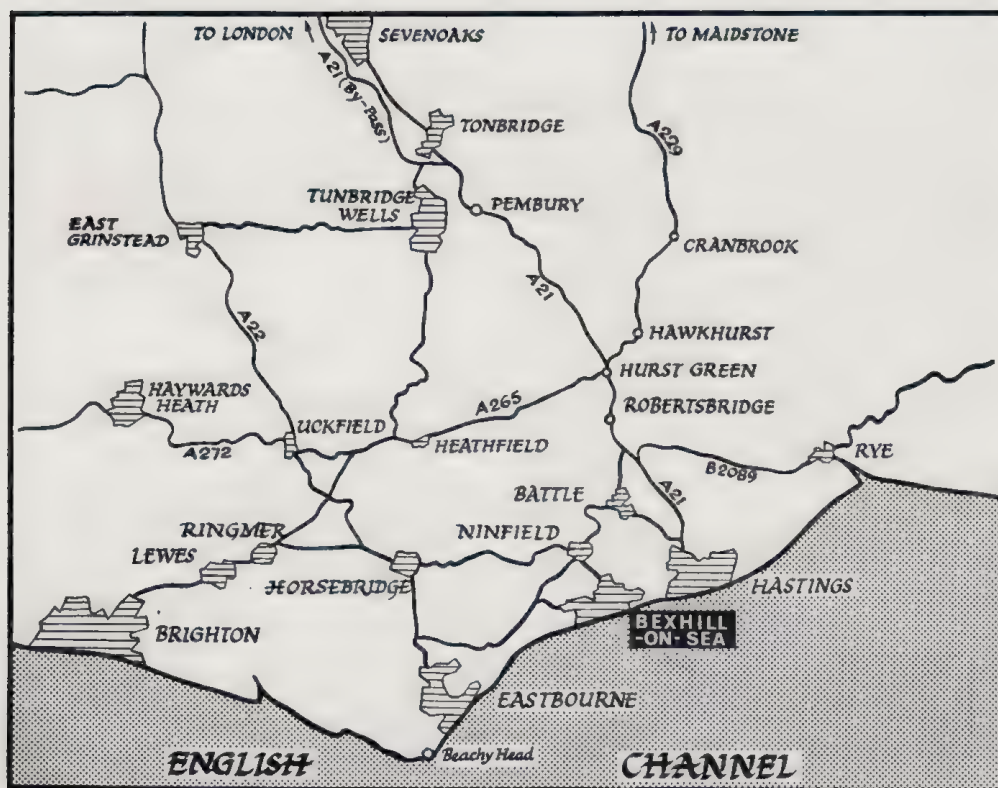


PREPARING A FAVOURITE DISH





A TUTORIAL WITH THE HEADMISTRESS



Bexhill-on-Sea enjoys the bracing air of the English Channel but is protected by Beachy Head from prolonged periods of inclement weather



Girls are expected to return to school with all toilet necessities, but when replenishment is needed during the term they may buy it from the school stores.

Every girl in the school has a bath or shower every day.

## **GENERAL**

A School Magazine is published annually and the girls produce their own.

There are pocket money banks into which pupils pay all their money. Some is drawn out each week to be used for sweets, sundries etc. More expensive entertainments and outings are charged to the parents' accounts at the end of each term. We suggest that pocket money from Forms 1 to 4 should be £25.00 per term and 5th and 6th Forms have special arrangements; this should be handed in at the beginning of term and parents are asked not to send money to their daughters. There is a school tuck shop where girls may buy sweets, stamps, pencils, etc. at the weekend. They are allowed to go into the town for shopping at stated times during the term. Tuck boxes are not allowed and food (apart from birthday cakes) may not be sent to the girls. Birthday cakes may be ordered by parents direct from Willards Bakery, Bexhill Road, St. Leonards-on-Sea.

Parents who would like their daughters to have extra fruit may make a special arrangement with the Secretary.

## **SCHOOL UNIFORM**

The school uniform is attractive, the colours are brown and gold. The normal wear is a brown pleated skirt with a gold blouse and tie in the autumn and spring terms, and a yellow and white dress in the summer. A brown corduroy pinafore dress is worn for best occasions and the school coat is suitable for all the year round. The hat is a corduroy beret. Brown skirts or shorts, yellow aertex shirts, yellow pullovers and track suits are worn for physical education. New school uniform may be ordered from the school. There is also a second-hand uniform shop at school. Girls wear their own clothes in the evenings but these are restricted to a sensible minimum. The School Outfitters are HARRODS, Knightsbridge, London, SW1X 7XL.

## **EXEATS**

Exeats are fixed and are subject to good behaviour. Permission for an exeat must be given by the parents on the form provided at the beginning of each term. A calendar giving the school dates is published every Easter for the next five terms. At half-term breaks the school is closed and girls go home with their parents or guardians. Only where the school is guardian are arrangements made for girls to go to holiday homes for these weekends, unless invited elsewhere. In the Spring Term there is a Parents' Open Day. There are escorted school trains to and from London for all exeats.

## **TRAVEL**

Frequent fast trains run from Victoria to Bexhill Central, the journey taking  $1\frac{3}{4}$  hours. The school can be reached by taxi from the station in five minutes.

On the first day of term, and at half-term holidays, pupils travelling from or via London are met by members of the staff at Victoria and escorted in a party. At the end of term they are returned to Victoria in the same way where parents should arrange



for them to be met. This service is undertaken solely as a convenience to parents, and the school cannot accept responsibility should an accident occur to a pupil on the journey.

### **CO-OPERATION OF PARENTS**

The Headmistress invites the co-operation of parents with the school at all times, as their kindly interest in its activities is a most valuable factor in maintaining its spirit and traditions and gives considerable encouragement to both staff and pupils.

Though such proviso, it is hoped, will rarely be necessary, the Headmistress reserves the right to ask for the withdrawal of any girl whose conduct, influence, or work is unsatisfactory.

The school cannot accept responsibility for any articles of value unless they are handed in to the school office. No responsibility can be taken for personal belongings of pupils unless they are in the custody of the staff at the time of the loss. All watches must be clearly engraved with the owner's name.

Insurance. The school insurance for theft and loss by fire is limited to £100. We advise parents to take out their own insurance for their daughters, if they have personal effects over this amount.

The School Calendar is printed 18 months in advance in order to facilitate booking for flights abroad. Would parents please note that the school cannot give permission except on compassionate grounds for girls to leave before the end of term, as the school year covers the minimum legal requirements.

### **FEES**

Termly fees and charges for optional extras are set out in a separate leaflet attached to the inside cover of this prospectus. A refundable Deposit of £100 against any emergency is required from all parents based in the United Kingdom. A half-term's fees in advance is required from all parents based abroad.

Materials for Dressmaking, Craft and Cookery classes are charged to pupils' accounts. In the Summer all girls take Swimming for which an extra charge is made. Special coaching, including certain extra 6th Form subjects, and tuition for other musical instruments is charged retrospectively at the end of each term.

Non returnable Entrance Fees: £3.00 for British Isles;

£15.00 for parents living abroad.

The number of extra subjects taken by each girl is limited so that her timetable is not over full. The school reserves the right to put up fees without a term's notice.

Pupils are accepted subject to the conditions set out in the prospectus and on the clear understanding that fees are paid before the first day of each term. A penalty of interest at 15% per annum will be charged to all overdue accounts. Parents wishing to withdraw a pupil at the end of any term must give written notice not later than the



first day of that term or pay a full term's fees. Similar notice is also required before the discontinuance of any extra subject or the appropriate fee for a term must be paid in lieu of notice.

### **DAY GIRLS**

Lunch is provided for all day girls and is inclusive in the term's fees. All other meals are charged for separately. Arrangements may be made for girls to remain at school for supervised preparation. New school uniform may be ordered from the school and second-hand uniform is also available. Day girls are expected to take part in all out-of-school activities.

## **INFORMATION FOR PARENTS LIVING ABROAD**

### **Guardianship**

A guardian in this country is necessary to arrange for a girl's holidays, travel, visas etc. The school is closed for the Christmas, Easter and Summer holidays and also for half term breaks during the Autumn and Summer Terms. Where parents desire that the school should undertake guardianship during term, details of the arrangements can be obtained on application to the Headmistress. A charge of £25.00 per term is made for school guardianship.

### **Holiday Homes**

For the holiday periods girls whose parents are abroad are expected to go to their guardians. Where the school is guardian holiday homes can be arranged by the school on application to Mrs. J. Allen, the School & Travel Secretary.

### **Trunk Service**

Trunks may be left at school. There is a charge for storing of £2 with additional charges for cleaning, laundering etc.

### **Escort Service**

The School uses and can recommend Visitors Welcome Ltd., 17 Radley Mews, London, W8 6JP for escorting girls to and from airports. Girls can be accommodated overnight in the escorts' own homes and are treated as one of the family. Cars direct to and from airports can be arranged on request to the School & Travel Secretary.

### **Reports**

A copy of a girl's termly report is sent to all parents whose daughters are not spending the holiday with them.

Will you kindly return this prospectus if it is no longer required.





1. Junior House. 2 & 3. Middle School House. 4. 6th Form House. 5. Senior House. 6. Domestic Science Block. 7. Science Block.  
8. Art Room. 9. Assembly Hall. 10. Junior and Middle School Classrooms. 11. Music Room. 12. Library, Pottery and Coaching Rooms.  
13. Putting Green. 14. Athletic Track. 15. Tennis Courts. 16. Hockey and Rounders pitches.







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## CHARTERS TOWERS

Bexhill-on-Sea TN40 2NP

Independent Public School for Girls

Recognised by the Department of Education and Science

Chairman of the Council: J. D. Smith, Esq., M.A., Ph.D. (Cantab)  
(Representing the University of Sussex)

Head Mistress: Miss D. L. Howe, B.A.

250 Boarders and 30-40 Day Girls

Junior School ages 7-11. Senior School ages 11-18.

The School occupies five connected Houses surrounded by extensive Playing Fields on high ground between the sea and the country on the outskirts of the town. Small numbers of girls from all countries are taken in an endeavour to promote international understanding and friendship.

Classes are small, with parallel Forms throughout to cater for girls of different capabilities. There is a fully qualified Staff preparing the girls through a modern curriculum for the Cambridge Ordinary and Advanced levels of the General Certificate of Education and for University entrance. A special feature is made of the large sixth form where all girls wear their own clothes and have guided freedom. They work for two years for Advanced levels where 16 subjects in all are offered, or take a General one year sixth form Course with alternative Ordinary subjects and the choice of Domestic Science, Foreign Languages, Art and Liberal Studies.

A new Science block and Art Department, Dining Room, Library, Pottery and sixth Form study-bedrooms in separate wings have been added.

There is a full time resident Careers Staff, Nursing Sister, and particular attention is paid to food. Special interest is taken in Music, Speech and Drama, Gymnastics, Dance, Games, Swimming, Athletics, Golf and Riding. Driving Lessons arranged for Sixth Formers. The School possesses its own cinema equipment. A special Secretary is responsible for all overseas travel arrangements.

~~Illustrated prospectus and fees on application to the Secretary.~~



The history of the School falls naturally into two sections. The first of these covers the period from its earliest beginnings in 1929 until its conversion in 1948 from an Independent Private School to an Independent Public School for Girls. The second section is devoted to its subsequent history as a Public School.

The saying that "Big oaks from little acorns grow" was never more true than in the case of "Charters Towers". In 1929, Mrs. Catherine Finch, who before marriage was a trained teacher, and a history mistress in a girls' Central School, under the old London County Council, decided to open a private school at Lingfield, in Surrey, where Mr. Finch was Headmaster of the local County Council School.

Mrs. Finch found her little prep. school growing more rapidly than she anticipated, and so she engaged a Froebel trained teacher as kindergarten mistress, and the School continued to grow. Within two years, Mr. & Mrs. Finch decided that it would be feasible to find a larger property, which could be developed as a boarding school for girls in addition to the day boarders. About two miles away from Lingfield, on the outskirts of East Grinstead, an attractive large country house with grounds, which had been a boys' prep. school was available. This property was called "Charters Towers", and the school was moved into it and opened in the Summer Term of 1931, and henceforth "Charters Towers" became its name.

A number of girls joined as boarders, the teaching staff was increased, and a trained nurse was appointed as Matron. The School continued to grow steadily, and at all times was a very happy school. In those days, school uniform was compulsory for every girl, of whatever age. Normally, in Winter and Spring Terms girls wore brown gym tunics, brown overcoats and brown velour hats. In the Summer Term, light summer frocks and school blazers were worn with panama hats. But, on Sundays, tussore silk dresses were worn, with cream overcoats and panama hats, and thus arrayed the 'crocodile' attended morning Service at Church.

By the beginning of 1934, after nearly three years, there were about fifty pupils in the School, of whom some thirty were boarders. But during the previous term a strange thing happened. One afternoon, quite unannounced, an elderly lady arrived at the School by car. She said that she was the head of a girls' school at Bexhill, known as "Worthingholm", and it was her intention to retire at Easter 1934. Having heard of the reputation of "Charters Towers", she proposed that Mrs. Finch should join up with "Worthingholm", and move the School to Bexhill, giving her an invitation to go and see the Bexhill premises. To begin with Mrs. Finch didn't take the proposition very seriously, so within a month the good lady appeared again, and was somewhat insistent. Eventually Mrs. Finch and her secretary drove down to Bexhill and saw the School and the possibilities it would offer, and finally agreed to take over after Easter 1934, when the East Grinstead lease expired. The "Worthingholm" School she took over then for four years is now House No. 5 of "Charters Towers", and had just over forty boarders, inclusive of the girls who had come from East Grinstead.

The next development occurred two terms later when the Head of "Greencroft" School, which is now House No. 1 of "Charters Towers", approached us to know if we would take over her School. She had a few boarders and a number of day girls, and although we had to purchase this property, we took it over in January 1935, and it became the Junior House of "Charters Towers". At that time the three intervening houses formed another girls' school, known as "St. Bernards", these being the present Houses 2, 3 and 4 of our School. But early in 1936, "St. Bernards" closed down and the three houses were left empty.

Early in 1937, we decided that we would not renew the lease of what was now our main school building, and purchase the "St. Bernards" property, and join it to the Junior House. This entailed a great deal of work and expense, but by September 1937, we were able to occupy our new premises, with Houses 1, 2, 3 and 4 forming "Charters Towers" into a complete unit, with a part of House 4 being occupied as a residence for Mr. & Mrs. Finch.



Two years later, saw the dark clouds of War hanging over the Country, and it was obvious that Bexhill was no longer to be a safe area for any school. In June 1940 Bexhill was declared an evacuation area, and the School was compelled to leave, and, through the kindness of a parent, a beautiful mansion was found, called Milland Place, near Liphook in Hampshire, which would house all the girls and staff.

The evacuation itself was a mammoth task. Four coaches were hired and removal vans took all the beds, linen, desks and kitchen equipment etc: In fact, the four houses were left completely empty. So Charters Towers spent 5 war years tucked away in the country, 25 miles north of Portsmouth. The School grew steadily during these years, with Servicemen requiring a safe place for their daughters in which to be educated and looked after.

The chef and his wife were towers of strength; always providing plenty of good wholesome food, in spite of rationing. The local butcher was a great friend!

During the height of the bombings on London and the South Coast, the staff undertook two hour shifts throughout the night to do fire-watching.

The girls had to create their own forms of entertainments, as travelling was at a premium. The highlight was the occasional dance with boys from Shoreham Grammar School, who were housed up the road in Milland House.

The grounds of Milland Place were extensive, leading down to a large lake, on which we had a boat. We also had our own stables and horse-riding was a great pastime.

When peace was declared in May 1945, the next step was to return to Bexhill. Throughout the War years the buildings at Bexhill had been commandeered by the Army and so before the School could return, everything had to be put in order, as a lot of damage had been done, with bannisters ripped to bits, walls knocked down, and the heating system completely out of action.

By September 1945 the buildings were habitable and everything was moved back and settled in to start their life once again in Bexhill. By this time the number of girls had increased to over the 100 mark.



During the War the Bexhill premises had been occupied by the Canadian Army and were sadly in need of rehabilitation, while the playing fields, used as a gun site, had to be ploughed up and reseeded. With her usual determination, however, Mrs. Finch moved the school back in 1945. At the same time she decided to appoint a Headmistress and Miss Eileen McGarry, B.A., F.R.G.S., came in April 1946. There were then 104 girls, aged 8 to 11.

During the Summer Holidays Mr. & Mrs. Finch moved to Glebeside, Hastings Road, and so House 4 was opened and soon accommodated a growing number of girls. Pre-War traditions were soon re-established.

The next big step was taken in 1948, when Mr. & Mrs. Finch sold the school, which became a Charitable Trust (Public School with a Board of Governors). The cost of purchase by the council had to be spread over 20 years.

In 1950 Charters Towers received full recognition by the Ministry of Education as a senior school for girls 11 to 18, an event which happily coincided with its 21st birthday. The original council included Bexhillians, Mrs. Christina Meads, Canon Bell, who became Chairman, and Alderman Bowrey, with Mr. & Mrs. Finch. The surviving members are Miss McGarry and Miss V. Dore.

In 1953 Sir Harold Spencer-Jones, the Astronomer Royal, joined the council and later became Chairman. Dr. Leslie Weatherhead, Lady Spencer-Jones and Dame Kathleen Lonsdale, in their turn, became distinguished Chairmen and great friends of the school. In 1971, on the death of Dame Kathleen, a fitting tribute to Mr. Finch was paid in electing him as Chairman after 40 years association with Charters Towers.

Mrs. Finch had introduced overseas pupils, and this number was now developed until Charters Towers became widely known as having no bars of creed or colour, race or religion; very unusual at that time. One girl wrote "I think being educated with girls of other Nations is the best kind of education. Perhaps if all the Statemen of the World went to school together, there would not be so many disputes." When the Freedom of the Borough was presented to Mrs. Meads and Alderman Bowrey, the school was proud to attend and took part in the combined schools concert.

As post-War restrictions were lifted, extensive building plans were made and a section was achieved each year. In 1968 the building and grounds of Wilton House were bought for the growing 6th Form. This was the old Worthingholme, which had been the original home of Charters Towers in Bexhill. Mrs. Finch died in December 1968, and a Memorial Service, attended by many friends and ex-pupils, was taken by Dr. Weatherhead, and the new Library was named after her.

By 1971, when Miss McGarry retired after 25 years as Headmistress, the name of Charters Towers had spread to many Continents. She was succeeded by Miss Dorothy Howe, who has carried on the traditions of the school. Day Girls are now a very welcome addition, and the school has grown to over 280 pupils, with a 6th Form of 100, and offering all the sciences and 12 languages.

*Bygone  
times when came before 11.20 2-11-71  
the very old building  
opened in 1900*